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MAIL

# INDIANS AT • WORK



MAY 1937

A NEWS SHEET FOR INDIANS  
AND THE INDIAN SERVICE

OFFICE • OF • INDIAN • AFFAIRS •  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



NOTICE

One issue of INDIANS AT WORK has had to be omitted, because of delays due to the moving of the Indian Office into the New Interior Building. This will be the only issue to appear in May. The next issue will be June 1.



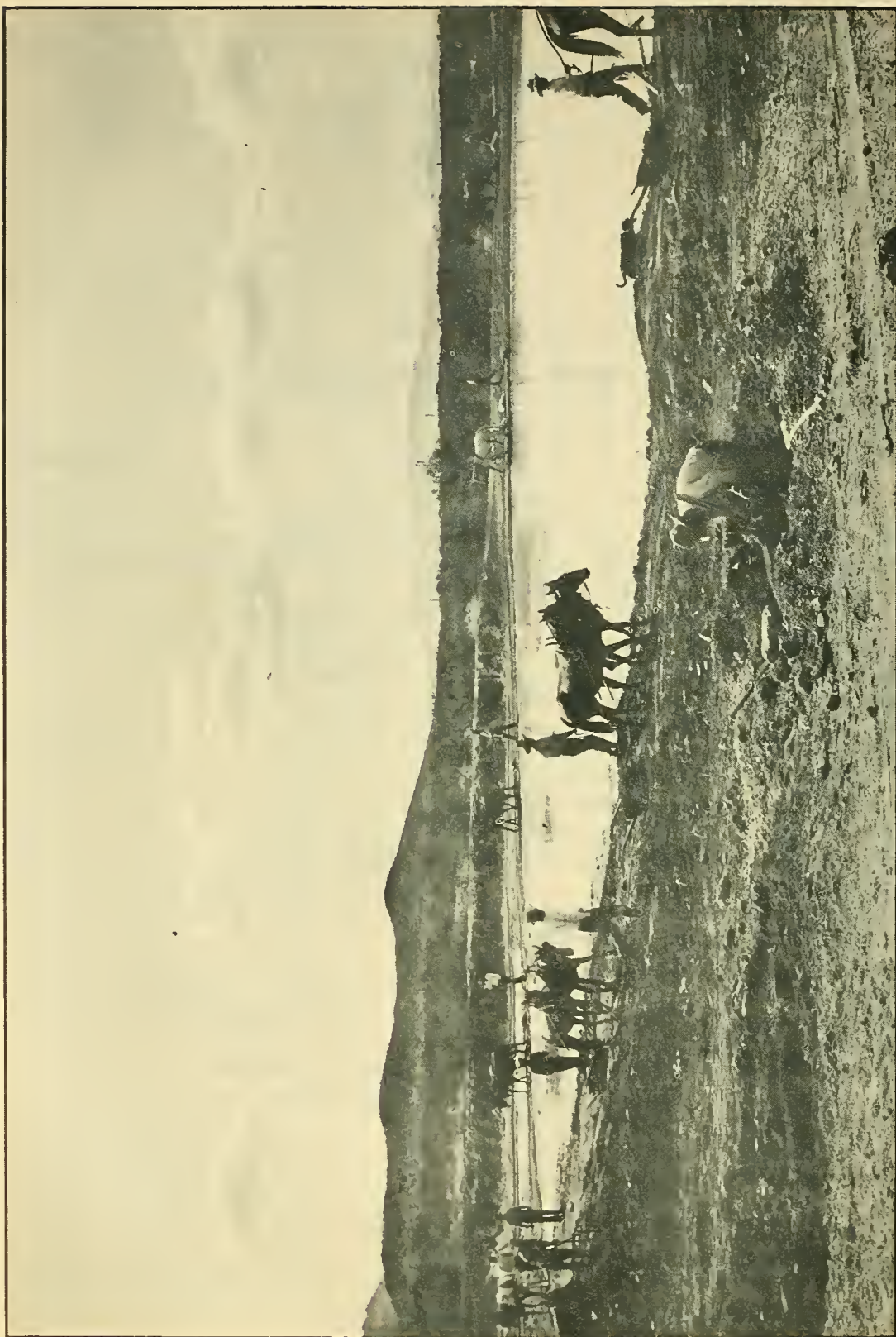
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CHARCO UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ARIZONA







# • INDIANS • AT • WORK •

A News Sheet for Indians  
and the Indian Service

• VOLUME IV •      • MAY      1937 •      • NUMBER 18-19

I have been reading a book so filled with astonishment, with delight, with wisdom and with innocence, that I feel I must pass along a few of its words to "Indians At Work."

When were the following remarks made, to what government do they apply?

"I have already indicated that the current method of selecting officials is wrong in principle. I have now to add that in the actual appointing of a man to office, no enquiry is made as to his real capability for the particular post to which he is allocated. All that is considered is his year of graduation, or his particular position on the examination lists. Or, again, instead of investigating his suitability for a certain position, regard is paid only to the number of years he has been engaged in the government service."

These were Wang An Shih's remarks, addressed to the Emperor of China in 1058 A. D.

"The statement of Mencius is apropos, viz., 'The laws do not administer themselves automatically.' To my mind, the greatest need of the times is the securing of capable officials. A proper method should be devised whereby such men can be trained, maintained, selected and appointed. I am bound to admit that (due to the dearth of capable officials) the present state of affairs is of such a character that even though Your Majesty should desire to reform the administration it would be practically impossible for him to do so."

The gist of Wang An Shih's recommendation was as follows: that opportunity to study practical matters of government and of state should be extended to all; that probationary appointments in the civil service should be made accessible to the many, not the few; that probation should be long-extended, and should be graduated toward final appointment; that the uncountable Rules and Regulations then paralysing government, made necessary by the mediocrity of the civil service, should be "scrapped"; that failure to demonstrate positive productive ability during probation should be the mandatory reason for summary and irrevocable dismissal from government service; and that the finding of men, the oversight of probation and the ultimate selections for executive positions, should be committed as an extra duty to those men already in public service who had proved their administrative competence.

As for the civil service examinations at that day being given for jobs at the Imperial Court, Wang An Shih simply refused to take them. But as he had succeeded brilliantly as Chief Justice of a District Circuit, and as his "Memorial of a Myriad Words" had awakened a deep excitement in the Emperor's mind, a commission was sent out to physically capture Wang An Shih to give him a top job at the Capital. The commission was successful, after a devious pursuit. Soon thereafter Wang An Shih became Prime Minister, and under his guidance the Emperor put into motion a "New Deal" for China.

Some of this New Deal was as follows. There was an "ever-normal granaries" system. Based on it, tenancy and peonage were attacked through the setting-up of a State credit system which cut the interest rates to farmers in half. This reform was entitled the "Green Sprout Measure." The national finances were reconstructed on the principle that if volume of business could be increased, taxes could go down and still the government would have plenty of money. Accompanying the fiscal reform efforts was a complete re-making of the ancient system of conscription for local public service; payment of money for these services was substituted, and the necessary money was raised through local taxes levied upon the rich.

Public works were set under way on the grand scale. They included land-reclamation and 'river conservancy', or watershed rehabilitation works; the survey and the economic classification of all lands; and the following interesting governmental scheme for im-

provement of transport. In the centuries preceding Wang An Shih's premiership, transportation had been a government monopoly. Hence "officials and their subordinates alike were engaged in the nefarious traffic of stealing, smuggling and selling." Wang An Shih abolished the government monopoly and induced universal competition by private carriers. "R. F. C." loans were supplied in return for guarantees of cheap and prompt deliveries. "Each of the competitors thus," he explained, "would keep a close watch on the other." That is, public and private transportation would discipline one another. The event bore out his prediction, government transport shot upward in efficiency, prices of transported goods shot down and everybody was gratified. This item was but one of many in an interstate commerce regulation program.

Now, China was, as it later remained, politically democratic under the Emperor, but with a great deal of monopoly of land and, as mentioned above, with a private credit system which held the entire peasant population in its coils. Fifty per cent per annum was a usual interest rate. And as mentioned above, Wang An Shih had set up a State rural credit, halving the interest rate to begin with, and had taxed the rich to get the money for local public services - services previously exacted at no pay from the poor. So, naturally, the rich struck back at Wang An Shih, and helping them were the civil servants who had been produced by that system of appointment and promotion which Wang An Shih had denounced in his memorial to the Emperor.



There came a great drought, such as we in America know in these latter days. "Cheng Hsieh" (enemy of Wang An Shih, and agent of the rich and of the bureaucracy) "observed the poor refugees from the north-east, traveling along the roads in the driving wind, with the heavens darkened by storms of dust, supporting their aged parents, and leading their young children. The roads were blocked by their numbers. He noted their sickness, their weakness and their evident sorrow and pain. Some he saw were practically naked, some had only leaves, or seeds, or the bark of trees for their food."

Cheng Hsieh was an artist in words, and he wrote a vivid description and delivered it "secretly" to the Emperor.. And he explained that the dust storm was not a result of that soil-erosion process which Wang An Shih was fighting through his public works, but: "The drought is caused by Wang An Shih. If you dismiss him, and rain does not come within ten days afterwards, you may cut off my head outside the Wsuan Te Gate."

The Emperor, "sighing deeply, eventually put the memorial up his sleeve, and that night he could not sleep, and arising very early he issued orders that eighteen different matters connected with the government were to be attended to immediately." These eighteen matters were the repeal, that very day, of China's entire New Deal. "And on that very day heavy rain fell!" And Wang An Shih resigned forthwith.

But the Emperor had got his rain; he loved and trusted Wang An Shih; and immediately he reversed himself back to progressivism, handed the wily and picturesque lobbyist Cheng Hsieh over to the criminal authorities, re-appointed Wang An Shih, and re-enacted the New Deal for China.

There's no space for more about Wang An Shih or about his epoch so like our own yet so remote from our own. In somewhat earlier Chinese days, public officials who dressed incorrectly were banished, those who drank alcohol were beheaded. Wang An Shih viewed this ancient custom with approval. "It is better that the few should suffer, rather than that the many should be corrupted." The China of Wang An Shih was already more than three thousand years old, and perhaps was the most civilized, perhaps the most simple-hearted of the nations that have ever been. Within that far-away social context this great statesman found situation after situation, problem after problem, and solution after solution, so close to our own present life, that when I was reading the book aloud to a friend the other evening he insisted it must be make-believe fiction. But it is not. The volume is called "Wang An Shih, a Chinese Statesman and Educationalist of the Sung Dynasty", and is written by H. R. Williamson, M. A., D. Lit., and published, 1935, by Arthur Probsthain, London; the first of three volumes to be published on Wang An Shih.

Wang An Shih's was a "successful" life. His New Deal prevailed. Age and sickness came to him as to all, and "he objected to

receiving the heavy emoluments attached to his position. He assured the Emperor that it would be easy to find someone to fill his post satisfactorily." His reformed civil service system was now producing its capable men. After many appeals the Emperor released him, and Wang An Shih retired to a monastery for the balance of his years. He wrote, among other things, fifty volumes of poetry and sixteen volumes of political essays. He died in 1086, aged sixty-five. Thereafter, the northern barbarians overran and conquered China.

JOHN COLLIER

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

\* \* \* \* \*

#### WASHINGTON VISITORS

Superintendents visiting the Washington Office recently have included: W. O. Roberts of Pine Ridge, South Dakota; Claude R. Whitlock of Rosebud, South Dakota; Superintendent Harold W. Foght of the Eastern Cherokee Agency in North Carolina and Dr. Sophie D. Aberle, Superintendent of the United Pueblos Agency, New Mexico; also Ralph D. Fredenburg, Superintendent of the Keshena Agency, Wisconsin.

Among others who have recently visited the Washington Office have been: Mr. Joe Jennings, Superintendent of Indian Schools in North and South Dakota and Nebraska, who came on reorganization matters and summer schools; Mr. Fuhrman A. Asbury, Extension Agent from Pine Ridge Agency; Mr. Carl B. Aamodt, Extension Agent from Rosebud; Mr. Jarrett Blythe, Chairman of the Eastern Cherokee Tribal Council; Walter C. Martin, Special Officer At Large.

Members of the Menominee delegation now in Washington are: Neil Gauthier, James Frechette and Jerry Grignon. Several members of the Land Acquisition staff have come to the Washington Office for meetings: A. L. Hook, E. M. Johnston, George G. Wren, Clyde G. Sherman, Fred A. Baker and Mark W. Radcliffe.



## THE PINE RIDGE RESERVATION LAND PROGRAM

By W. O. Roberts, Superintendent

Pine Ridge, South Dakota



Plate I - Pine Ridge In 1936.

Black Area: Land Owned Or Leased By Whites

White: Area Used By Indians; Also (Largely) Wasteland.

The story of the use of Indian lands during the past twenty-five years is not one quickly told. In the early years of the reservation the lands were stocked with Indian-owned cattle and horses. The records of the Pine Ridge Agency show that about 1910 there were more than 25,000 head of cattle belonging to the Indians and nearly that many horses. The abundant grass, together with wise planning and rigid administration by the early officers of the reservation, brought about the development.

### High-Priced War Wheat And Lure of Quick Profit Break Up Range

The first serious break in the system undoubtedly was due to the war pressure. The panic of the times demanded that farmers sow more wheat.



Therefore, the prairie lands of South Dakota beckoned to the central states people to plow the land and reap the harvest. Indians caught the urge to sell their stock and convert it into cash. A frenzy to "develop" the country reached emotional proportions. It was held to be a sin and a wrong to allow land to lie "idle." Farmers, business men, the railroad companies and, to some extent, the Government itself believed in the principle of "land development." The idea was everywhere prevalent that the Indian should retain only a small amount of land, "what he could use", and sell the rest.

Paralleling the theory of intensive use of land through "development", a system of leasing grew up. The pressure to sell Indian land plus the pressure to use intensively the rest of the land brought about farming and grazing leases. And the Indians themselves wanted immediate cash. Consequently the sale and the leasing of the lands was accelerated.

#### Population Increases; Land Has Dwindled

The Pine Ridge staff holds to the theory that while Indians have not learned to use land in the same sense that skilled whites have done, the procedure lies not in a restricted quantity of land for Indian use, but a larger quantity. We believe that in proportion to the excess of grass actually needed by animals, there will be a decrease in the amount of winter feeding and care.

The economic condition of the Pine Ridge Indians is by all odds the greatest problem facing the Indians and the employed personnel. Without doubt, the land status of the Indians is worse probably than it has been at any time since the agency was established.

The population has been steadily increasing for the past twenty years. Infant mortality has been reduced and better health practices have led to an increase at the rate of between fifteen and twenty per thousand each year.

Simultaneously with the increase of population, the assets of the Indians have been steadily reduced. Through the issuance of fee patents and sales, about two-fifths of the total reservation area has been sold into the hands of white people. The greater portion of the remainder, about seven-eighths of the usable land has been leased to white people. (See the map on page 8.) Indian cattle and horses have been reduced almost to the vanishing point. The Pine Ridge staff and Indians face the need for a drastic and definite program if the tide is to be reversed.

#### Balanced Program of Live Stock And Gardens Sought

To meet this situation, the Extension Division, with the advice of other employees and the Indians, set about a plan of reserving for Indian use

certain areas believed to be to the best interests of the Indians. All the land shown in black on Plate II was taken back into Indian use from land formerly leased to whites. It lies mostly along creeks where a large proportion of the Indians actually live.

As a general rule the area reserved for Indian use surrounds their homes and will facilitate the opportunity for reestablishing the Indian-owned live stock. Furthermore, the absence of large herds of cattle which the leasing of land bring in, will make possible the better utilization of the garden plots along the small streams and springs.

Our whole effort is toward better opportunity for self-support. Every venture which will add to individual families' food supply will be pressed during the coming year. Some of the Indians are interested in milk goats: we are trying to obtain these animals for such groups. Undoubtedly, the forage along the small streams, together with what the Indians may be able to raise, will offer fine opportunities for the success of this venture. Several areas offer opportunity through irrigation. In fact, seventeen dams are available for use beginning this spring.

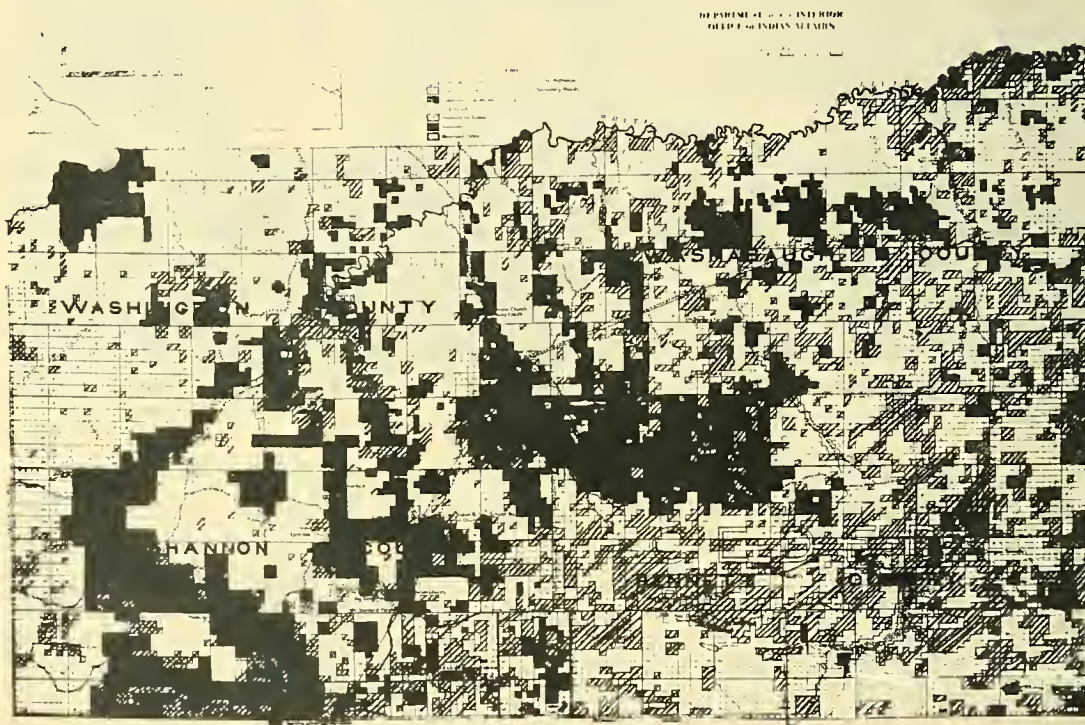


Plate II - Pine Ridge In 1937.

Black Area: Land Turned Back Into Indian Use -  
Formerly Leased By Whites.

Cross-hatched Area: Deeded Land.

White Area: Land Which May Be Leased By Either White  
Or Indian Lessees; Also Wasteland.



## Wise Land-Use Our Biggest Opportunity

The biggest opportunity in the immediate future of the Pine Ridge Indians lies in wise land utilization. Unquestionably, the economic condition of the Indians cannot be improved unless they themselves can be helped in the use of their own lands.

This reservation program hinges on the active cooperation of all divisions of the jurisdiction. In some areas the school-teacher will assume its sponsorship. In communities where there are no schools the burden will be the heaviest on the Extension Division. All divisions will help in the planning.

Grazing lands on the Pine Ridge Reservation bring in, when leased, approximately ten cents an acre a year; the farm lands slightly more. During the past year about 30,000 head of white-owned cattle, 50,000 sheep and several thousand horses were cared for through the use of Indian-owned land. Certainly the reservation would bring more return to the Indians if they owned the live stock.

The process of recovery of leased lands for Indian use is not easy. We believe, however, that an intensive effort, directed through adult education, will bring about a changed point of view among the Indian people, and that those areas reserved for Indian use may rapidly increase. Surely, the outlook of the Pine Ridge Sioux is by no means hopeless if the assets of the tribe are used for the fullest benefit of the Indians.

\* \* \* \* \*

## REORGANIZATION NEWS

The constitution and by-laws for the Walker River Tribe, under the Carson jurisdiction in Nevada, was approved by the Secretary of the Interior on March 26.

Recent charter election results are as follows:

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
April 10 .....	Yerington Paiute (Carson) .....	36.....	6
April 17 .....	Fort Hall.....	325.....	101
April 24 .....	Fort Berthold .....	407.....	118



A High Wind - Darkness - Danger.  
Three Men Lost Their Lives In  
This Fort Belknap Fire, 1936.

Radio Fire Patrol At  
Blackfeet Agency In Montana



After The Fire.  
This Horse Had No  
Time To Escape



## FIGHTING THE ENEMY

By William H. Zeh, Senior Forester



An Enemy Of The Forest. An Abandoned Camp With Fire Unextinguished. Many Forest Fires Are Started In This Manner.

Two Forest Officers were sitting in the fire dispatcher's office at Whiteriver on the Fort Apache Reservation. The day was still and sultry. Various maps were on the walls and on the table stood a standby radio receiver. Suddenly a voice was heard, clear and insistent: "KNLUM calling KNLU -- KNLUM calling KNLU. Am standing by."

In an instant the switch was thrown and the fire dispatcher flashed the message, "Go ahead, KNLUM."

In one brief instant, there was received by radio from a young full-blood Apache stationed at a far distant mountain top, news of the approach of a dreaded enemy capable of laying waste to the green mountain slopes of his homeland and threatening the supply of the life-giving waters needed in the fertile valleys.

Shortly after Lee Harvey, the Apache Indian guard, had radioed the fire report to the dispatcher, a crew of Apache Indian Emergency Conservation workers was on the way to the fire. After a short, hot battle the last ember was extinguished and the crew returned to camp in time for a shower before supper. Bad news - quick arrival - hard work - all over!

The lookouts are the eyes of a fire-fighting organization. They and the guards play a very important part during each fire season. Through their alertness, this one reservation fire dispatcher was able to control thirty-seven fires set by a lightning storm within a period of twenty-four hours, holding each fire down to the very minimum size. Fire-fighting is hard and exacting work. It takes men of good judgment, knowledge of forest fires, reliability and courage. Fire-fighting contains an element of battle,



Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona  
Fire Guards With Portable Radio

and even though it is hard work, it is also interesting and challenging and presents a field of activity well suited to a large number of young Indian men.

A few days after the radio call was sent in by Apache Lee Harvey, an inspection of the lookout and the guard station from which this call was received was made and Lee Harvey demonstrated the setting up and use of the portable field radio set. Inspection of

this station was very satisfactory and this Indian lad is to be commended for his interest in and knowledge of radio as applied to forest protection.

\* \* \* \* \*

### FIRE-FIGHTING - NOW AND LATER

By William H. Zeh, Senior Forester

1935

It was a wild, fast drive - bounce - bump - hang on; then a long hike, too long it seemed - the tools were heavy, the water canteen became lighter too rapidly; thoughts wandered to the fire emergency rations - too often. But the work had not yet begun. Finally the acrid smoke became thinner, then was heard the roar of the flames as a fire crowned in a thicket of pine reproduction.



Fire On Crow Reservation. Summer, 1936.

Then work - shovel - chop - shovel -

"Cut that fire off before it gets into that thicket!"



Then shovel - chop - shovel -  
sweat - retreat - shovel - chop - curse:  
"Where's that blankety-blank water boy?"

"Gosh, it's hot!"

The smoke is hurting the lungs,  
the eyes are burning like hot coals, cot-  
ton is in the mouth, the throat feels  
cracked.

"Head her off, boys, before she  
gets into that pine reproduction."

Chop - shovel - backfire -

"Hurrah, we held the line!"

Then the water - rations - gosh,  
the blisters; sparks ruin the shirt; the  
eyebrows are singed . . .

"Wasn't it a hot one, but we got  
it licked."

The fire report records five acres  
burned, six men on the fire; total time,  
seventy-two man-hours.

1945

We happened to hear this bit of  
conversation between the fire dispatcher  
of Reservation X and the pilot of the plane,  
Forest Fire-Fighter No. 1.

"Hello, Jack, lookouts on Electric Butte and Grizzly Peak just re-  
ported a fire started by lightning. Our maps show that it is in pine re-  
production on Truckee Ridge; the Coordinates are R - 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The maps show  
an opening sufficiently large for your aircraft to land within a quarter of  
a mile to the south. Wind velocity is ten miles per hour from the south-  
west. Use chemical bombs C. Q. to check the fire until you have landed your  
plane and you and Jim arrive to mop up. Use chemical back packs B. Q. for  
fire control and mopping up in the reproduction thickets. Report by radio  
to the dispatcher's office result of your chemical bombs and report again  
before you leave. Your course is N. 22 West."

The fire report records one-tenth acre burned, two men on the fire;  
total time, one man-hour.



Lightning - Another Enemy  
Of The Forest

SHERMAN STUDENTS PRAISED FOR WORK IN FIRE LAST FALL

Mr. D. H. Biery,  
Superintendent Sherman Institute,  
Riverside, California.

Dear Mr. Biery:

In expressing thanks on behalf of the staff of this Forest and myself for the assistance which your institute gave us on the East Etiwanda Fire I cannot forbear a word of praise for the performance of the boys from your school.

Even some of the oldest timers in the Forest Service game who were on the fire made the statement time and again that they had never seen a group of fire-fighters who did better work than the boys from the Sherman Institute. Even the little fellows whom we assigned to kitchen work performed in wonderful shape and received the praise of the Army officers who were conducting the mess. True, the boys were earning a little pin money but none of my men ever heard one of these boys while on the fire, speak of wages due; their chief aim seeming to be to do everything they could to carry on the fire fighting work to the best of their ability.

The boys were well-behaved, well-disciplined, well-officered by their own leaders and did the hardest kind of work without complaint and I wish to express to them through you the appreciation of myself and force for their work on the East Etiwanda fire. We will clear our pay rolls and get the checks to the boys just as speedily as possible.

The work of the boys made such an impression that I am looking forward when time will permit to pay a visit to your institution since I am sure you must be doing wonderful work in your school to be able to turn out such a fine group of clean-cut youths as worked on our recent fire.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed)

William V. Jones,  
Forest Supervisor

San Bernardino National Forest



THE PAPAGO COUNCIL

Papago Agency, Sells, Arizona



Left to right:

<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>
Stanley Juan .....	Sif-Oidak
Jose Raymond .....	Pisinemo
John Mendez .....	Sells
Richard Hendricks .....	Chukut-Kuk
Jose X. Pablo .....	S'Chuk-Toak
Henry Throssell, Treasurer .....	Chukut-Kuk
Jose Telio .....	San Xavier
Henry Manuel .....	Sif-Oidak
Ida Norris, Secretary .....	Sells
Bernabe Lopez ,.....	S'Chuk-Toak
John Ortiz, Vice-Chairman .....	San Xavier
Espirito Adams .....	Gue-Va
Jose Ignacio, Chairman .....	Sells
Jose Listo .....	Gue Achi de Santa Rosa
Juan Harvey .....	Baboquivari

CHIEF CLERKS WHO ATTENDED WASHINGTON CONFERENCE APRIL 5 TO 12



### THIRD GROUP OF CHIEF CLERKS MEETS

The third group of chief clerks met in Washington from April 5 to 12. In line with the previous two conferences, a scheduled procedure was followed which included instructions in office practice, the reviewing of common problems and interpretations of regulations. As evidence of the diversity of duties of chief clerks, discussions ranged from accounting methods, personnel appointment procedure and bonding of personnel, to the problem of unexpected and not always welcome gifts originating from other Government departments and accepted by the Washington Office for shipment to the field.

### Gift Horses Are Looked In The Mouth

Some of these, such as the surplus army clothing of high quality, have been of tremendous value. Other gifts, such as fifty pairs of size fourteen rubber boots, or carloads of pungently soiled, unassorted and worn-out socks, have been less welcome, particularly when they have arrived without warning or explanation, accompanied by sizable freight bills. "We got a sort of instrument once," said one chief clerk, "and nobody around our agency knows what it is for. It must be good for something - it looks expensive and is all done up in a leather case. We didn't ask for it: it just came. But we are responsible for it, and we still don't know what it is for."

### Commissioner Collier Extends Greeting

Commissioner Collier, in speaking informally to the group said:

"I would like to tell you what I told a previous group of chief clerks: that I feel, as I know Mr. Zimmerman and Mr. Crosthwait do also, that there are no men or women who occupy positions more important than those of chief clerks. The chief clerk pretty nearly makes or breaks his jurisdiction. It may not seem, on the surface, that what he is doing is all-important; much of what he does must necessarily be details and mechanics. But if he does not take care of these mechanics wisely the superintendent is frustrated in his whole policy. In one sense, perhaps the chief clerk's role is obscure, but we know that if he fails, everything fails. Chief clerks are almost the keystone of the arch of Indian Service.



"I am glad that Mr. Crosthwait has instituted this program of bringing groups of chief clerks in to Washington and discussing with them common problems and methods of procedure. It gives some of us here a chance to know you. I hope that this practice may become a periodical one. I only wish I could myself have seen more of you and have come to know you personally. I am glad that you are here."

### Twenty-Four Jurisdictions Represented

Those present at this third group meeting were:

Harold M. Knutson ...	Senior Clerk .....	Blackfeet Agency, Montana.
John L. Walters .....	Senior Clerk .....	Cherokee Agency, North Carolina.
Herbert D. Milburn ..	Senior Clerk .....	Cheyenne & Arapaho Agency, Oklahoma.
Charles W. Higham ...	Principal Clerk ..	Chilocco School, Oklahoma.
Gordon G. Griffiths .	Senior Clerk .....	Choctaw Agency, Mississippi.
Joseph V. King .....	Senior Clerk .....	Consolidated Chippewa Agency, Minnesota.
Lola M. Rambo .....	Private Secretary.	Five Civilized Tribes Agency, Oklahoma.
Russell J. Vaughan ..	Senior Clerk .....	Five Civilized Tribes Agency, Oklahoma.
LeRoy Dufford .....	Clerk .....	Five Civilized Tribes Agency, Oklahoma.
Leonard L. Smith ....	Senior Clerk .....	Fort Berthold Agency, North Dakota.
Gordon J. Baber .....	Senior Clerk .....	Great Lakes Agency, Wisconsin.
Jessie Marsh .....	Senior Clerk .....	Haskell Institute, Kansas.
Lloyd G. Andrews ....	Senior Clerk .....	Keshena Agency, Wisconsin.
Patrick Hamley .....	Senior Clerk .....	Kiowa Agency, Oklahoma.
Anna O. Goodwin .....	Clerk .....	Kiowa Agency, Oklahoma.
Dick Gentry .....	Senior Clerk .....	Osage Agency, Oklahoma.
Clifford C. Marrs ...	Senior Clerk .....	Osage Agency, Oklahoma.
Cicero L. Lynch .....	Clerk .....	Paiute Agency, Utah.
Alex D. McDougal ....	Senior Clerk .....	Pawnee Agency, Oklahoma.
Joseph Blandin .....	Senior Clerk .....	Potawatomi Agency, Kansas.
John A. Phifer .....	Senior Clerk .....	Quapaw Agency, Oklahoma.
James H. Brott .....	Senior Clerk .....	Red Lake Agency, Minnesota.
David E. Livesay ....	Senior Clerk .....	Sac and Fox Sanatorium, Iowa.
Thurman Bohart .....	Financial Clerk ..	Sequoyah Training School, Oklahoma.
Victor E. Godfrey ...	Clerk .....	Shawnee Sanatorium, Oklahoma.
Arthur B. Daniels ...	Financial Clerk ..	Tomah Agency, Wisconsin.
Hiram N. Clark .....	Senior Clerk .....	Winnebago Agency, Nebraska.
Janet V. Sharp .....	Principal Clerk ..	Irrigation Service, Washington.
Nathan G. Murray ....	Senior Clerk .....	Irrigation Service, Arizona.
W. R. Elliott .....	Senior Clerk .....	Irrigation Service, Arizona.
H. W. Palmer .....	Principal Clerk ..	Irrigation Service, California.
Merle V. Mooney .....	Assistant Clerk ..	Seminole Agency, Florida.



WADE CRAWFORD, KLAMATH SUPERINTENDENT, SEPARATED FROM INDIAN SERVICE

Secretary Ickes, on recommendation of Commissioner Collier, approved on April 30 the separation of Wade Crawford from the position of Superintendent of the Klamath Indian Agency in Oregon.

Commissioner Collier expressed regret concerning the necessity for having to take this action, as he had personally selected Mr. Crawford, a member of the Klamath Tribe, for the position from which he was separated. The Commissioner stated that Mr. Crawford's separation from the Service was not due to any charges reflecting upon Mr. Crawford's honesty, but rather that such separation was made necessary because of the inability of Superintendent Crawford to meet adequately many of the difficult administrative problems, particularly personnel problems, arising on the reservation, and especially because of the Indians' inability to maintain harmonious relations with him.

During the three and one-half years of Superintendent Crawford's incumbency, the Commissioner pointed out, there has been a personnel turnover of practically 200% in the professional, technical and clerical branches of the reservation organization, the highest personnel turnover on any of the fourscore reservations. Constant demands have come from the Klamath Indians that Superintendent Crawford should be dismissed. Two years ago Commissioner Collier vigorously defended Superintendent Crawford's policies before the House Committee on Indian Affairs. Since then, two separate investigations by agents not connected with the Indian Service have been made of conditions on the Klamath Reservation. Both investigators, among other things, recommended that Mr. Crawford be removed from the position of Superintendent.

The action in the case of Superintendent Crawford, the Commissioner averred, did not imply any modification or alteration in the policy of Secretary Ickes to place properly qualified persons of Indian blood in executive positions in the Indian Service. Commissioner Collier pointed out that under the present Administration, the number of Indians employed in the Indian Service has been materially increased, and at the present time there are over 3,000 Indians regularly employed in the Indian Service. Among these Indian employees are Mark Burns, a Chippewa Indian who is Coordinator of all Indian Service activities in the Great Lakes Area; Dr. Henry Roe Cloud, a full-blood Winnebago Indian, who is a Supervisor of Indian Education; Ralph Fredenberg, a member of the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin who has made a fine record as Superintendent of the Menominee Reservation; Robert Yellowtail, a full-blood Crow Indian, Superintendent of the Crow Reservation in Montana; Thomas Dodge, member of the Navajo Tribe who is Assistant to the Superintendent of the Navajo Reservation; Gabe Parker, a Choctaw, Superintendent of the Winnebago Agency in Nebraska; and several others in positions of similar importance.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AT SHERMAN INSTITUTE, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA



Ute Indian Girl Engaged In Arts and Crafts Work



Student Painters On Exterior Work



STUDENT ACTIVITIES AT SHERMAN INSTITUTE, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA



Farm Fence Building



Klamath Student Operating Hoist For Concrete Carriage



## INDIAN EDUCATION THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

By Miguel H. Trujillo, (Isleta Indian)

Day School Teacher At Paraje, New Mexico

From early times the Indians were recognized as being wards of the Federal Government. Up to 1824 all relations with the Indians were conducted through the War Department, but in that year the separate Office of Indian Affairs was created and in 1832 Indian education was placed on its present footing by the creation of the office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

### Changes In The Government's Policy

The first work in education of Indians was done by religious denominations through mission schools. The beginnings of Indian education by the Government were made under law of 1819, which authorized the President to employ capable persons to instruct Indians in agriculture and to educate their children in reading, writing and arithmetic. For this purpose, Congress appropriated \$10,000. The following year the President was authorized to use the money to aid societies and individuals engaged in the education of the Indians. For the next half-century Indian education was conducted largely by the various religious denominations aided by small Congressional appropriations.

A new policy was adopted in 1876, that of providing for education of the Indians under strictly governmental auspices and with this change the real development of Indian education began in 1896. A contemporary report stated that it was "a settled policy of the government to hereafter make no appropriations whatever in any sectarian school."

The Johnson-O'Malley Act of April 1934 began the establishment of Federal-State cooperation for the education of Indian children. The act authorizes contracts with the states to provide education of Indians in the public schools with the aid of Federal funds.

The appropriations made by the Federal Government to defray the expenses of educating the Indians have ranged from \$10,000 in 1819 to \$9,771,000 in 1933, then to \$9,405,375 for the year which will end June 1937.

Throughout the entire educational history related above, various educational policies and objectives were adopted, altered, cast away and others substituted in an attempt to solve the problem -- How Shall We Educate The Indian? Let me review briefly a few.

### Indians Must Be Civilized, Said Calhoun

In 1820, John C. Calhoun reported as follows to the House in regard to the spending of an appropriation of \$10,000 for Indian education made the previous year. "Although partial advances may be made under the present system to civilize the Indians, I am of the opinion that until there is a radical change in the system any efforts which may be made must fall short of complete success. They must be gradually brought under one authority and laws, or they will insensibly waste away in vice and misery. It is impossible with their customs that they should exist as independent communities in the midst of civilized society. They are not an independent people (I speak of these surrounded by our population) nor ought they to be so considered. They should be taken under our guardianship; our opinions and not theirs ought to prevail in measures intended for their civilization and happiness. A system less vigorous may protract but cannot arrest their fate."

### "Of All Irrational Creatures - -"

In 1898, the Indian educational problem brought forth the following possible solution according to a report of the Superintendent of Indian Schools: "How can we best discharge the obligation we owe these people? In the first place, the Indian must be separated from all traditions and customs and he must be stimulated by a purer and more invigorating social and moral atmosphere. In our efforts to humanize, Christianize and educate the Indian we should endeavor to divorce him from his primitive habits and customs ... Of all irrational creatures upon the face of the earth, Indian girls are at the head. They seem peculiarly possessed to act contrary to reason... With the white child, prudence has set limits; with the Indians they are absolutely nowhere ... He even goes beyond this and glories in suicide ... The Indian is the strangest compound of individualism and socialism run to seed. It is this being that we endeavor to make a member of a new social order ... To do this we must recreate him, make a new personality."

Accordingly, for the most part up until about ten years ago, the best educational method in educating the Indians was to catch the young Indians, separate them from their parents and teach them the white man's ways. Thus, hundreds of little Indians were rounded up and shipped perhaps hundreds of miles away to boarding school to be "recreated and humanized" and finally to "divorce them from their primitive habits and customs."

### The Boarding School Era

During this "humanizing period" the youngsters were forbidden to speak their native language in order that they might better learn the white man's language. If the little Indians forgot and spoke Indian they were subjected to corporal punishment that was reminiscent of the feudal times in the white man's history. Jails were part of the educational institutions and were used to retract those who persisted to cling to their primitive ways and also those that managed to run away from the "school" and were later re-



A CLASSROOM AT LAC DU FLAMBEAU, WISCONSIN

These Boys Are Finding Out What Makes The School Water Supply Safe

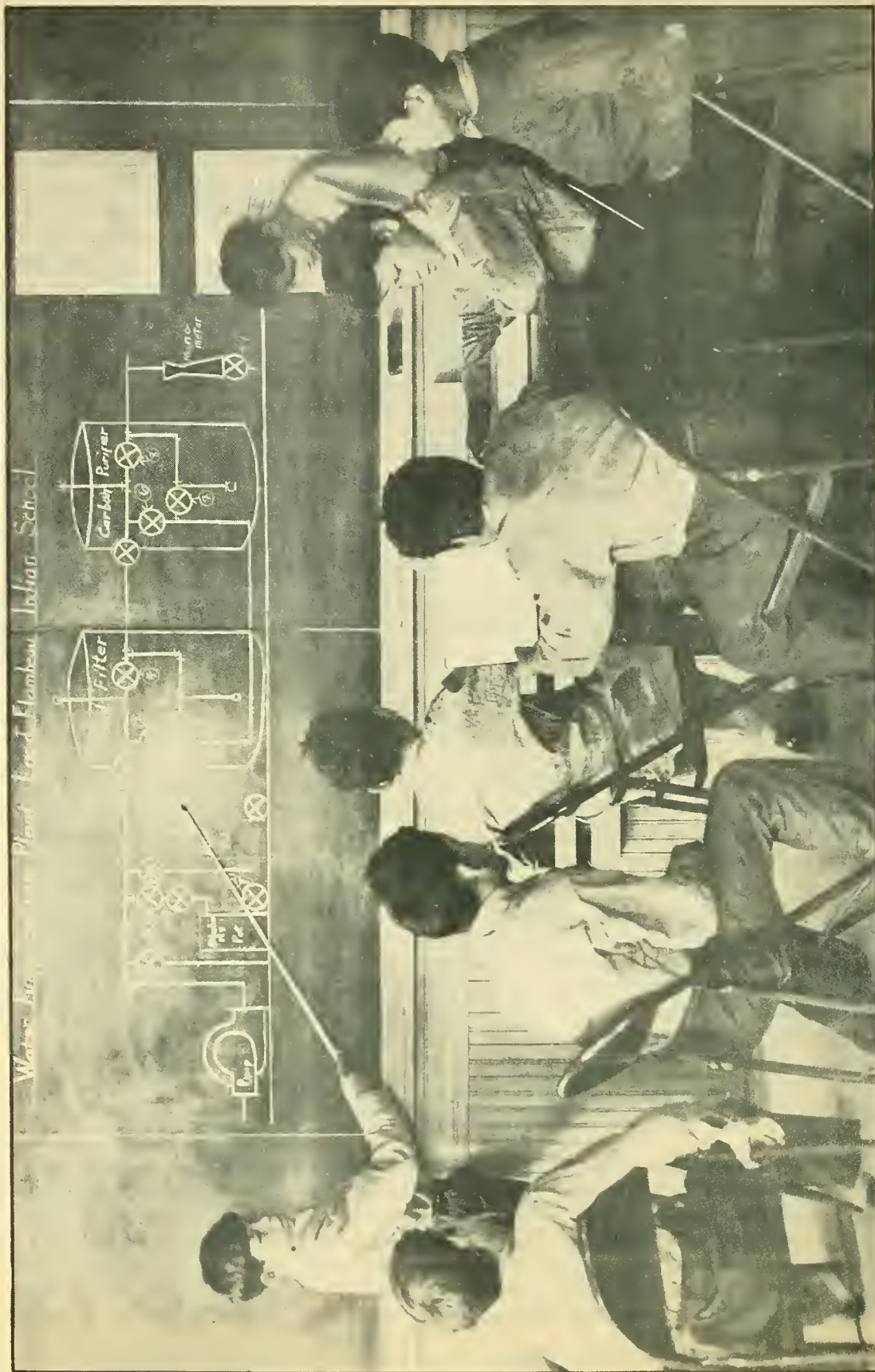


Photo by George L. Waite, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.



captured. Throughout this "recreation" the Indian youth was made to understand that everything his parents had taught him was wrong. If his parents objected and interfered they were given jail sentences also. Reading, writing, and arithmetic were taught; and trades also, although far removed from the child's needs and the environment of Indian life.

The foregoing may be considered sentimental. But one is not apt to forget soon one's own subjection to such an "educative process."

### Indian Administration Survey Requested

In June 1926, Dr. Hubert Work, then Secretary of the Interior, requested the Institute of Government Research to make a complete survey of the Indian Service and its problems. The aim of the survey was to make findings from which might be formulated a more economical and efficient policy of Indian administration and perhaps a more realistic educational system.

The survey was made by Dr. Lewis Meriam and a staff composed of specialists in education, health, economic welfare, agriculture and family and community life. "The Problem of Indian Administration," as the Meriam Report is called, was submitted to the Secretary in February 1928.

### Meriam Report Urges Educational Changes

The report stressed the importance of utilizing the fundamental psychological and anthropological facts of the Indian in regard to his education. It stated in part, "The Indian Service has not appreciated the fundamental importance of family life and community activities in the social and economic development of a people." Then its recommendations stated, "The first and foremost need of Indian education is a change in point of view. Whatever may have been the official governmental attitude, education for the Indian in the past has proceeded largely on the theory that it is necessary to remove the Indian child as far as possible from his home environment; whereas the modern view in education and social work lays stress on upbringing in the natural setting of home and family life. The Indian educational enterprise is peculiarly in need of the kind of approach that recognizes this principle; that is less concerned with a conventional school system and more with the understanding of human beings. The methods must be adapted to individual abilities, interests and needs.

"Indian tribes and individual Indians within the tribes vary so greatly that a standard content and method of education, no matter how carefully prepared, would be worse than futile. The curriculum must not be uniform and standardized. The textbooks must not be prescribed. From the educational standpoint the young child does not belong in a boarding school."

Thus did the Meriam Report revolutionize the Indian educational theory. It has been the basis of all governmental policies in regard to the Indian educational system.

#### Commissioner Rhoads States New Educational Purpose

So in 1931, Commissioner of Indian Affairs Charles J. Rhoads, declared in his Annual Report, "The purpose of education for any indigenous peoples at the present day is to help these peoples both as groups and as individuals to adjust themselves to modern life, protecting and preserving as much of their own way of living as possible and capitalizing their economic and cultural resources for their own benefit and as their contribution to modern civilization."



School Children, Alabama and Coushatta Reservation, Texas

#### Present Administration Furthers Realistic Objectives

Then in 1935, the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs, John Collier, stated in the Annual Report to the Secretary of the Interior, "It should be the aim of Indian education, at least for the next generation, to deliver Indian adolescents fully and practically prepared to make the most of their available resources, adolescents in whom the tie that binds them to their homeland has been strengthened rather than broken, Indian youth with wide horizons, bilingual, literate, yet proud of their racial heritage, to become completely self-supporting ... at the same time, Indian education



must reckon with the fact that there will be Indian children for types of employment removed from Indian reservations, also that there will be Indian children of more than ordinary ability and talents who must be given an opportunity to develop this ability and these talents to the highest point for use either in the white competitive world, in Indian life on the reservation, or in the Federal Indian Service."

Consistent with the policies just related, the Indian Service has been engaged in remodeling the educational program. Its major tasks have been the improvement of the existing schools, the reducing and eliminating of the boarding schools where possible and establishing and developing new day schools in Indian communities.

#### Where Indian Children Attended School In The School Year

1935 - 1936

Local Public Schools .....	50,328
Federal Day Schools .....	10,609
Federal Reservation Boarding Schools .....	8,509
Federal Non-Reservation Boarding Schools .....	4,192
Mission, Private and State Day Schools .....	1,455
Mission, Private and State Boarding Schools .....	6,543
Sanatorium Schools .....	448
Special Schools .....	447
Not in School .....	13,855

Perhaps the most significant of the changes in the educational program is the modern philosophy and practice of education adopted by those responsible for the education of the Indians. This is indicated by the setting up of realistic educational objectives in the schools, based on actual environmental factors and needs of the Indians. Curricula have been adapted to meet the needs of adults as well as of the pupils enrolled, with emphasis on the use and conservation of the Indians' own resources. Then there has appeared a sympathetic attitude of the Government in the appreciation and acceptance of the Indians' cultural contribution and non-interference in the religious life and expression of the Indians.

With an increase in day school attendance from 5,063 in 1932 to 10,000 in 1936; with increased attendance in all Indian schools; with adults taking advantage of special schools; and with more than 200 young Indians attending colleges and institutions of higher learning - it is clearly evident that Indians are taking full advantage of all the opportunities offered by the Federal Government.



# SETTING A HEN

One day we set a hen.  
We made her nest in a box.  
We put in hay to make it soft.  
We put twelve good fresh eggs in the nest.  
Then we set a big brown hen on the eggs.  
She could cover all the eggs.  
She kept them warm.  
We counted them every day.



Tomacito Vigil

"One day we set a hen."

## CHICKS ARE HATCHED

The hen sat on the eggs a long time.  
She sat on them three weeks.  
At last we heard something in the nest.  
Peep! Peep! Peep!  
Some new chicks came out of the eggs.  
We counted six little chicks.  
They were very soft and yellow.



Tomacito Vigil

"We counted six little chicks"

## "SCHOOL DAYS IN SAN JUAN"

A fourth booklet in the series of Indian children's own writings, "School Days in San Juan", has been issued. The material was prepared by San Juan children and Rhoda Tubbs, formerly their teacher. The booklet was edited by Miss Rose K. Brandt and printed at Haskell. A sample from the text and the delightful drawings which accompany it is shown on the opposite page.

\* \* \* \* \*

## HEALTH CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON

By Dr. J. G. Townsend, Director of Health

The District Medical Directors of the Indian Service met in Washington April 5 to 15 for their annual conference with the Health Division. At these yearly meetings, general medical policies and programs are formulated; also medical directors have the opportunity of attending the Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers which is held annually in Washington.

The following officers of the Indian Service were in attendance: Dr. W. S. Stevens of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Dr. J. F. Worley of San Francisco, California; Dr. L. A. Fullerton of Spokane, Washington; Dr. L. R. White of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Dr. J. F. van Ackeren of Juneau, Alaska; Dr. W. W. Peter of Window Rock, Arizona; Dr. Polk Richards of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Dr. Joseph D. Aronson of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Also present were Miss Grace G. Engleman, Supervisory Trachoma Nurse from Albuquerque and Miss Mabel L. Morgan, District Supervisory Nurse from Minneapolis.

Of outstanding importance at the conference was the round table discussion on tuberculosis. Dr. E. R. Long, Director of the Henry Phipps Institute in Philadelphia and Consultant for the Indian Service in Tuberculosis, Dr. William Charles White, Chairman of the Research Committee, National Tuberculosis Association and Dr. Louis I. Dublin of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York City, contributed to this meeting.

At a discussion of trachoma work Dr. Harry S. Gradle of Chicago, who has recently been appointed Consultant in Trachoma, outlined plans for the control of this disease in the Indian Service. It has been estimated that there are approximately 30,000 cases of trachoma among the Indian population of the United States: obviously measures for its control are of extreme importance. The Committee on Conservation of Vision, State and Territorial Health Officers, introduced a resolution which was passed by the Association that the State Health Officers give closer cooperation to the Indian Service in the eradication of trachoma among Indians.

## NAVAJO TRIBAL COUNCIL REORGANIZES

The Navajo constitutional assembly met at Window Rock, Arizona, April 9 and 10 to discuss the reorganization of the Navajo Tribal Council.

Last November the Navajo Tribal Council passed a resolution as follows:

"Be it resolved by the Navajo Tribal Council in council assembled that a new Tribal Council be organized as soon as practicable;

"Be it further resolved that a committee consisting of the present members of the executive committee and the former chairmen of the Tribal Council be, and the same is hereby appointed for the purpose of calling a constitutional assembly for the purpose of considering and adopting a constitution or by-laws for the Navajo people."

The committee set to work during the winter, and, by means of many local meetings, recruited outstanding headmen from all Navajo districts, including the remote outlying areas. A final selection of 70 delegates was made, 66 of whom attended the meeting. Twelve members of the existing council were present.

After explanations and discussions, which several times grew heated, a resolution was passed by which the old council was dissolved and the assembly formed itself into a tribal council.

The constitutional committee, appointed by the new council chairman, Henry Taliman, will draft a provisional constitution, which will be subject to approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and which will then go before the Navajo Tribe for ratification.

Two excerpts from the many speeches follow:

Dashne Clah Chischillige: ... I have been to school ever since I was a little boy and the Government has spent a lot of money to educate me. It has been said around Shiprock that this Reorganization Committee is to draft a new constitution. I want to say that I have worked with the committee and upheld the men and that we try to explain some of the policies put out by Washington, and if we vote on this it does not mean that it becomes a law. It must also be acted upon by the Secretary of the Department of the





Delegates To The Constitutional Assembly, Who Became The Navajo Tribal Council, With Henry Taliman As Chairman



Chee Dodge, Tribal Leader And Past Chairman Of The Navajo Tribal Council

Interior. We want you people to know that we are in favor of the movement put out by Washington. I know that you people would not want this reservation to be allotted and this constitution would have a provision to abolish that part of it.

\* \* \* \* \*

Chee Dodge: Now we have to put our heads together and work out our own salvation, for ourselves and for our fine young men and women. We have to do something for the years to come. I have sheep just like any other Navajo, and the Government has been after me many years. I have repeatedly said before many meetings that I will have to fall in line with the land management program the same as the rest of the Navajos. If we would have taken care of our range, there would not be any starvation on the range such as there is now with thousands of sheep dying. That should be a lesson to us.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### OWENS VALLEY LAND EXCHANGE BILL BECOMES LAW

A ten-year effort to bring about the rehabilitation of some 700 Indian residents of the Owens Valley, California, culminated during the last days of April in the passage of an enabling act authorizing the exchange of certain lands and water rights between the City of Los Angeles and the local Paiute Indians.

Several decades ago, the City of Los Angeles, in quest of an additional water supply, built a 200-foot aqueduct, through which it conveyed the bulk of the Owens Valley Water to southern California. The city then was compelled to acquire practically all of the land in the Owens Valley in order to protect its water supply. Through these acquisitions the valley was practically dried up and the ranches upon which most of the Indians had been finding employment ceased to operate and the ranchers moved away.

The resident Indians, however, did not move away. This valley was their ancestral and deeply beloved homeland.

Through the efforts of Superintendent Alida C. Bowler and others, the Water Department of the City of Los Angeles was induced to agree tentatively to place at the disposal of the Indians a tract of land with sufficient water to make farming operations possible for the Indians, the Government and the Indians in turn compensating the City of Los Angeles by the transfer of certain less desirable lands with and without a water supply. This exchange of land for land with more water now has received the approval of Congress and the President; and a rehabilitation program for the Indians can now be made effective. The City of Los Angeles presumably will vote on the question in the early future. If the vote is favorable the Owens Valley Indians will be assured of homes and land in the one place they wish to live.



## POLITICS AT SOLOMON

By Mabel Nigh Nylen, Teacher

Solomon, Alaska.



**The Native Preacher And Former Village Mayor With His Family**

The station at Solomon, Alaska, was opened November 1, 1934. School began the first Monday thereafter amid great enthusiasm by both young and old. The older people felt pride in this sign of growth and improvement of their village; the older children were eager to go to school -- most of them for the first time; the smaller children were thrilled over anything new, especially some place to go and do things they couldn't do at home.



A few months after the school was established, a meeting was called of all adult Eskimos and it was suggested that they elect a mayor and village board (since elaborated to a City Council), in an effort to create a feeling of responsibility and a pride in achievement.

Tom Tootkaylqk was elected. He served well and was soon elevated also to the position of village preacher. He took great pride in both stations and carried them out in his quiet, conscientious way, to the best of his ability.

But late this fall there began to be an undercurrent of ill feeling. The exact primary factor has not yet been discovered and probably never will be. Jealousy suddenly developed over one citizen's being too long honored with the position of both mayor and preacher - although the natives' own votes had elected him - when there are so few chairs of honor to be appropriated in a small village. So while the end of Tom's second term of office was still some months away, an irate citizen suddenly demanded a new election for mayor. The Eskimos forthwith held the election.



Solomon's New Mayor And His Family

Tom lost by one vote (although his friends informed the teacher that some of his enemies had cast three votes each against him). And Milton Adams, who had moved into the village only when the Office of Indian Affairs' station was opened, so that he might send his children to school, was elected.

I made no protest about the election but suggested we forget all past differences and stand behind our new mayor to see what good could be accomplished.

Milton Adams was something of a character in Solomon, partly because he was a newcomer - although most of the native people here knew him

elsewhere - partly because he had more education than any of the others, but mainly because of his independent nature. He is one Eskimo who pays as he goes and can be ruled by no man through credit. He has a philosophy of his own which he sometimes expresses in his own characteristic way.

Soon after his election, Mayor Adams called a village meeting. Everyone came; old, young and babies. He addressed them thus:

"For two years now you been after me to play in this thing - this politics and City Council and all them kinds of stuff. I don't want to be in it because I seen it other places and always troubles comes up. Sometimes one way, sometimes something else again, it comes that makes trouble and all them things.

"Well, now you got me. I'm elected Mayor and I didn't want to git it. But you went and got me anyway. So now I'm Mayor. Now you do what I say. And you do it too.

"If I tell one man to do something, he do it; if I tell someone else you do something, you do it pretty quick too. Now I'm Mayor and boss and all them things and I'm going to see that some things is done right and some of these kids that's running round nights and doing things what ain't right, they kin look out plenty because I'm going to see about them things too.

"And another thing, some things you bother them teacher about, you can come see me instead. Then if I think it's good to go to teacher, I'll go to teacher with you and we fix it up right. Because some of you fellers don't know all them reports and everythings and medicines to give out and teaching school and maybe washing clothes a little for herself and cooking and so like I say, I'll look after them things too.

"And now this week I want every man in this village to haul one load of woods to them Mathews orphans. And what I say you got to do now. And one load of woods from every mans this week.

"Then and another thing. This City Council is going to meet and make some rules about what time all them kids got to be at their own homes at night time so we got not so much troubles all the times."

Mayor Adams ended with a flourish amid great applause. Everyone agreed that just the right man had been elected Mayor. Some special music was rendered and the meeting ended.

Within certain limitations a Mayor and a village board, elected by the natives themselves, undoubtedly can accomplish much good. Working through such a group creates a feeling of responsibility in their minds that is an education in itself.

In spite of friction now and then, the Solomon natives are learning in an elementary way to rule over themselves.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE NORTHWEST COMPANY'S POST

GRAND PORTAGE, MINNESOTA, 1936

By Ralph D. Brown

Archaeologist, Minnesota Historical Society

In the April 15 issue of "Indians At Work", Miss Grace Nute told something about the great days of Grand Portage in its prime as a fur-trading center of the Northwest Company.



View Of Part Of Stockade Area.  
Trenches Show Outline Of Part Of Original Stockade

In the early spring of 1936 a project for the investigation and partial reconstruction of the Northwest Company's post, under the Indian Service and with the cooperating supervision of the Minnesota Historical Society, was approved.

Contemporary Accounts Give General Description

First we compared contemporary accounts of the post - from Harmon, Macdonnell, Heriot and Mackenzie.

Their accounts varied somewhat, but gave a general composite description of a stockade enclosing an area



of some 24 x 30 rods, standing to the eastward of Mount Rose and just west of the small creek running through Grand Portage, close to the water's edge. The stockade was described as being made of cedar pickets - an impressive sight it must have been - fifteen feet high and sunk three feet into the ground, eighteen inches in diameter, accord-

ing to accounts. There were three gates in the stockade wall, over which stood two blockhouses. In the enclosure, the accounts said, were sixteen wooden buildings. Their size and dimensions are not given, but, it is said, two or three hundred persons lived, during the busy summer season, within the stockade.

### Site Of Stockade Reveals Little On Surface

In early May I accompanied Mr. W. M. Babcock of the Historical Society's staff on an exploratory trip to Grand Portage to examine the stockade site. The stockade itself had been gone for more than a hundred years, and at least two houses and a barn have stood on the site during the last eighty years.

What did we find? To begin with, little: Two furrows, marking stretches of the rear, or north, and west stockade walls were easily

visible. The rear depression measured 204 feet in length, while the western furrow faded out about 250 feet from the northwest corner. Aside from the two lines of walls, no other boundaries of the enclosure could be determined from the surface markings. Midway along the inside of the rear wall lay a scattered pile of large boulders, and farther toward the lake, several other heaps of stone, all within the enclosure. An overgrowth of brush and small trees occupied several hundred square yards of the site.

### Excavations Begin

A month later, on June 10, when the ground was free from frost, excavation was begun in earnest with a crew of six men under my direction.

The object in mind at that time was chiefly exploratory: To define the position of the old stockade walls as far as possible; to locate the gates and blockhouses if possible, and perhaps the foundation lines of one or more structures. The best plan seemed to be to begin work on the west wall

where the furrow was most strongly marked. Along the courses of the walls a series of cross trenches was dug about six by two to three feet and three feet or more in depth at right angles to the stockade furrow. The ground was very difficult to dig into, since the top soil was full of large stones. Seepage was bad in some sections and the exploratory pits were soon standing full with water.

Several important features soon appeared. The outlines of the orig-

inal trench were clearly marked on the sides of the test pits. The decayed ends or bases of more than a dozen pickets were found standing in position just below the surface of ground in the sandy soil toward the lake. They were found in relationship to a number of horizontal logs, imbedded in clay fill in their original positions where they had acted as sub-surface supports for the stockade poles.

When the work ceased at the end of an eight-day examination of the site, there had been determined (1) about one-half of the outline of the stockade; (2) the diameter of the pickets used in the palisade; (3) the nature of the sub-surface construction of the stockade wall; (4) the probable location of one of the three gates; (5) the existence of a



One Of Trenches Showing Some  
Of Original Poles In Place

stockade wall running through the center of the site; and (6) the existence of Indian material in small quantity. With the clearing of about 1,500 square yards of brush and small trees from the enclosure, the work in June came to a close.

We resumed excavation August 10, but were handicapped by local forest fires which our men helped fight.

It had been intended to lay the whole site out with a large crew, to trace the remainder of the stockade outline, to attempt to find the two remaining gates and the blockhouses, and the position, perhaps, of other structures within the enclosure, if time allowed. Actually it was possible only to determine the course of most of the south wall, much of which lay under the roadway, to map the site, and to add further specimens of cultural material to the archaeological collection. The section was staked out in five-foot squares. The dirt in each square was removed in layers to the depth of the undisturbed clay and carefully screened. Our anticipations were fulfilled: an arrangement of small walls appeared, which may very well prove to be the foundation lines of a blockhouse, although the identity of the structure which they supported remains to be definitely established. The foundation lines ended in a corner which contained the butt of the second gate post.

Later on we were able to build our staff up to nineteen and to add to it Mr. G. Hubert Smith and Mr. Allen Holmberg of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Then began the intensive work of laying open the stockade walls



whose courses had been determined, and of putting in numerous exploratory trenches. Very satisfactory progress was made until September 22 when the project money had been almost entirely spent and no more labor was available.

By this time the stockade had been completely outlined. Its features of construction were now fairly clear, and a number of pickets had been unearthed. One gate, and possibly a second, with the foundation lines perhaps of a blockhouse, and parts of those of four other structures had been unearthed.

About 200 feet of the stockade wall lies under the road, which could not and cannot yet be opened. In this area there may lie the remaining gate and blockhouse.

After the departure of the workmen, Mr. Smith and Mr. Holmberg continued the measurement, description and removal of the timbers and the

mapping of the site. The work for the year came to a close the last week in October, by which time Mr. Smith had been able to define completely the foundation lines of one structure.

Knowing that there had been three white occupations at Grand Portage - French, British and American, in the order named - we were aware of the possibility of the superposition of occupational debris. An examination of certain vertical faces indicated that such stratification might be found. It is possible that the middle wall and part of the west wall marked the line of an earlier post, but if this is so, it remains to be proved until further excavation can be completed. No unit has appeared which can be definitely ascribed to the French or American occupations. Now there is a feeling of certainty that the stockade, as outlined at present, represents only that of the Northwest Company.

#### Artifacts From Excavations On Display

Samples of wood fragments from excavated areas were sent by Mr. William Heritage and Mr. N. W. Scherer of the Indian Service to the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, for identification and comment. Picket sections were reported to be white cedar and gate-post spruce. The Laboratory requested the samples to add to their museum collection as examples of wood known to have lasted a long time. It has been proposed to send one of the better preserved pickets to the Laboratory Museum where it will receive permanent care.

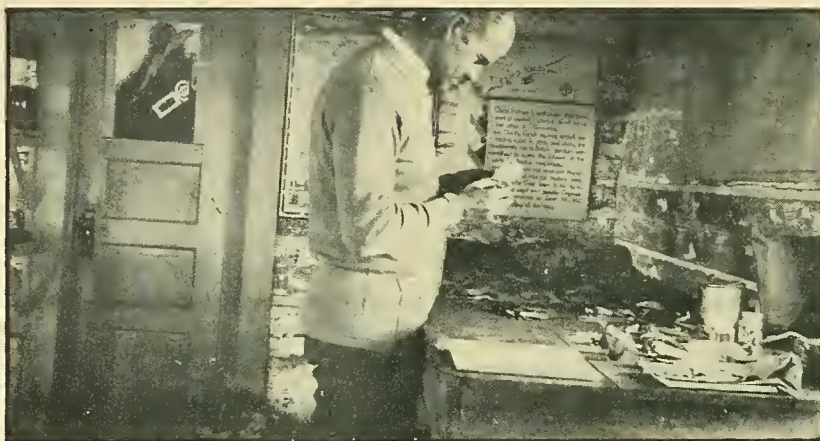
The Cook County Historical Society extended the use of space in their museum, which stands within the stockade enclosure, as storehouse and workshop. Here the cleaned, repaired and labelled archaeological specimens were put on temporary display. This descriptive collection numbers 485 identifiable items, which fall almost entirely into two groups - trade articles and pieces descriptive of trading post life.

There are clay pipe fragments, bottle glass, china, earthenware,



pewter, a spigot, buttons, knives, lead balls, gun pieces, trade rings, files, chisels, hinges, nails. Properly, this material should be on display in a building in the stockade enclosure during the sum-

mer months, if it can have adequate care. The preponderance of whiskey tumblers, glass bottles and the like is understood when it is learned that in a single year - 1803 - the Northwest Company used 16,299 gallons of liquor.



Mr. Brown Examining The Artifacts Found In Trenches

#### Complete Excavation Hoped For Later

Although operations during the season were handicapped by water in June, fires in August, and through our inability to devote uninterrupted attention to the work, they were all to the good, and laid a definite groundwork for further development of the site. In at least three points the investigations have indicated shortcomings in the recorded observations of the early travelers: The greatest dimension of the enclosure proved to be slightly more than twenty-two rods rather than thirty; the diameters of the poles of the palisade were eight to ten inches usually instead of eighteen inches, the measurement of the gate posts, whose full diameters were most apparent; the distance of the stockade wall from the

lake was more nearly twenty feet than twenty paces. But perhaps this is an indication that the shore line has receded during the last 140 years.

Foundation lines were worked out for one building unit, measuring eighteen by twenty-six feet. Now that it has been proved that these exist, it should be possible to complete the outlines of the remaining fifteen buildings. Because of the importance of the Northwest Company's post here, and because, fortunately, there is such a wealth of cultural debris to be found, it is hoped that complete excavation of the entire enclosure, with the purpose of thoroughly investigating all phases of human activity on this spot, can be made.

## National Park Service Has Been Pioneer In This Type Of Excavating Technique

Interest was evident on the part of nearly all visitors to Grand Portage; few could resist visiting the excavations, almost none, the museum. Some of the more inquisitive were given a screen and seemed highly pleased to have a hand in the work. Although the project was not publicized, there were callers from several states and Ontario, some of whom came more than once during the summer. The Northwest Company was British, and for that reason, in one sense, the study and development of the Grand Portage post as an important historical site and memorial is of international significance. The interest shown by the public is not surprising since this is the first work of its

sort done in Minnesota. Mention of the investigation of the Northwest Company's post, Fort Charlotte, at Pigeon River, by Dewey Albinson and A. G. Eastman for the Minnesota Historical Society in 1922, should not be omitted.

The approach to the archaeological investigation of an historic site differs from that followed in classical archaeology or in the study of prehistoric sites wherever they may be. A satisfactory technique appears to be evolving through the comparatively small amount of work which has been, and is being, undertaken in this country, chiefly that under the direction of the National Park Service.



Enrollees Sifting Excavated Earth For  
Artifacts - Beads, Pottery And So Forth



DAY AND NIGHT - SHOSHONE INDIAN RESERVATION, WYOMING





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Fence Work At Truxton Canon (Arizona) Most of our work this week has been on fence and truck trails. The equipment shed is nearing completion which will be of great benefit to the mechanic and his helpers. Up until this time they have had to work on the ground and out in the open, which made it very disagreeable. It also made it very difficult to keep a good mechanic. James L. Hendricks.

Well Development At Potawatomi (Kansas) A small crew of men have been working on the Iowa Reservation this week digging on a well. A small crew has been working on the Sac and Fox Reservation at seeding and sodding on the Connel Dam. About 3,000 square yards of work was completed. P. Everett Sperry.

Progress At Tulalip (Washington) Good progress reported on all projects. Planking and backfilling is work being performed on Project 17, nearing completion. T. Lozeau.





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Clearing Right-Of-Way At Navajo (New Mexico) We have been brushing and clearing up the fallen wood for about 100 yards on each side of the trail and 200 feet each side of the telephone line. We added up over 200 cords of

wood, which will be useful here at the base camp. John Neil.

Fire Lane Maintenance At Choc-taw-Chickasaw Sanatorium (Oklahoma) Weather Conditions this week have been ideal for fire lane maintenance work and very nice progress has been made. If weather conditions continue good we believe we will have our fire lanes in very good condition within the course of a short time. We had some rain last night and the wind has been blowing considerable today. In fact, too much wind to do any fire lane burning. However, other work on the fire lanes can be carried on very nicely. W. E. Van Cleave, M. D., Superintendent.

Fence Work At Truxton Canon (Arizona) Most of our work this week has been on fence and truck trails. The equipment shed is nearing completion which will be of great benefit to the mechanic and his helpers. Up until this time they have had to work on the ground and out in the open, which made it very disagreeable. It also made it very difficult to keep a good mechanic. James L. Hendricks.

Well Development At Potawatomi (Kansas) A small crew of men have been working on the Iowa Reservation this week digging on a well. A small crew has been working on the Sac and Fox Reservation at seeding and sodding on the Connel Dam. About 3,000 square yards of work was completed. P. Everett Sperry.

Progress At Tulalip (Washington) Good progress reported on all projects. Planking and backfilling is work being performed on Project 17, nearing completion. T. Lozeau.

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